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FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Confirmation No. 1037

Kouki FUKUI

Docket No. 2001_0681A *#5/B*

Serial No. 09/870,480

Group Art Unit 1772 *X60*

Filed June 1, 2001

Examiner W. Aughenbaugh *1219-02*

NONCOMBUSTIBLE INSULATING DUCT

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of September 12, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Specification and Abstract:

Kindly replace the original specification and abstract with the enclosed substitute specification and abstract.

In the Claims:

Kindly cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice.

Kindly add new claims 15-41 as follows.

15. (New) A noncombustible insulating duct comprising:

an elongated strip formed of an insulating material and a noncombustible sheet encasing said insulating material;

wherein said elongated strip is arranged in a spiral shape having a plurality of turns;